

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in Virginia coastal waters.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

April 30, 2013 to May 21, 2013

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal action to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT :

DOC/NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposes to adopt and implement management measures to adjust the fishery management program for the federally-managed Atlantic Herring fishery through Amendment 5 to the Atlantic Herring FMP. The proposed action focuses on establishing a comprehensive catch monitoring program for the limited access herring fishery, addressing river herring bycatch in the herring fishery, establishing criteria for midwater trawl vessel access to groundfish closed areas, and adjusting other aspects of the fishery management program to keep the Herring FMP in compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The NMFS has submitted a Federal Consistency Determination that finds the proposed action consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

NAME; John E. Fisher
DEQ Central Office
Office of Environmental Impact Review
629 East Main Street, Room 633
Richmond, Virginia, 23219;

Phone: (804) 698-4339
Fax: (804) 698-4319
E-mail: john.fisher@deq.virginia.gov